

CCLWG Meeting November 6th, 2003

Attendees:	Adam Bronson	UDWR
	Norman McKee	UDWR Retired
	Vaughn Heaton	Livestock
	Alan Henry	Livestock
	Todd Black	USU Extension CCES
	Dax Mangus	USU Grad. Student
	Dean Mitchell	DWR
	Kevin Heaton	USU Extension
	Lisa Church	BLM Kanab Office
	Missy Siders	BLM GSENM Office
	Kim Christy	SITLA
	Lou Brown	SITLA
	Laura Romin	USFWS
	Renee Chi	USFWS
	Martin Nay	Panguitch
	Wally Dobs	Panguitch
	Earl Henry	Panguitch
	Clare Ramsay	Tropic
	John Julander	Panguitch
	MacRay Julander	Panguitch
	Donna Wells	USFS Panguitch
	Dennis Pope	BLM Kanab Office
	Frank Alleman	Kanab
	Marvin Baker	Kanab
	Alex Camb	Glendale
	Brad Reeve	Panguitch
	Blake Walback	Richfield NRCS

Meeting started at 6:15 PM

**Discussion Subject UDWR and BLM updates of projects and status:**

Adam Bronson—talked about various vegetation treatment projects in Kane and Garfield County. Count 17 strutting grounds only 10-11 have strutting birds on them. A 20 year downward trend including 2003 with these strutting grounds. Drought and low recruitment may be a major cause to this. Roller Mill Peterson wash area project SITLA 3-400 acres in 2001—Dixie harrow treatment on black sage and seeded. Then 3-400 acres on BLM in 2002. Drought has lead to very little establishment of seed on the treatment sites. These areas will be re-seeded this year weather and seed monies permitting. Limekiln and Sanford prairie dog site—pasture aerator treatment method this treatment removes less sagebrush and is likely a better method of treatment in this area than Dixie harrow treatment. Two additional projects pending-- The best habitat in the valley are the upland areas that are adjacent to the agriculture areas. Better diversity needs to be created along Panguitch bench. The interface between private and public land is critical to this area. UDWR gets certain monies each year to use with seed and

habitat rehab. Sage-hen hollow area several plans are in the works in the area. Flame-in-goes have done a bunch of clearing along the power line area to reduce fuel loads prior to a controlled burn of encroaching P/J. Once completed the area will be reseeded. Alton area, the only active strutting ground is 3-4 miles south of the town of Alton. Counts are down to single digits. A few small projects have been completed with private land owners in and along the wet drainages. P/J encroachment is substantial. BLM is going to work with the bull hawg to reduce P/J encroachment and create more corridors with the existing sagebrush. The birds up towards Panguitch (butler creek lek 45+ males) lake seem to be doing the best.

Lisa Church—gave BLM presentation. Then gave further discussion on many of the projects Adam talked about. Many of the projects have also had additional fencing completed to help with grazing efforts and pasture rotation. Discussion with the LDS Church with land sell/swap where a lek is located in the valley. The South canyon project is looking to burn 5000 acres of P/J. Research project in the Sink Valley site. Working with the DWR to trap and research birds and habitat needs in this area.

### **Issues and Questions:**

Discussion from the group about predation and predators of sage-grouse and what effect they may have on the population—raccoons, skunks, red fox, ravens etc.

Questions were asked about sage-grouse diet and translocation.

Question was asked about hunting sage-grouse in the Panguitch area. No hunting is allowed in the area.

Questions—why don't we just raise grouse like we do with pheasants and other upland game species.

WNV and sage-grouse questions. Several birds in WY MO and AB have lost several birds to WNV.

Composition of seed mixes. UDWR tailors mixes to site and project based on moisture

### **Discussion Subject: rework the working group**

UDWR—Adam Bronson      BLM—Lisa Church Missy Siders

USFS—Jake Schoppe      SITLA—Ron Torgeson

SCD—Alan Henry      Garfield Co—undecided

Private landowners—Bruce Bunting      Sportsman—Mike Ray Julander

USU Ext.—Kevin Heaton      NRCS—Blake Walback

Upper Sevier Water Shed—Wally Dodds      Kane Co. Comm.—Mark Habbeshaw

USFWS—Laura Romin UFB—John Keeler

WS—Kevin Dustin/Roger Nowers      Grazers—Danny Perkin/Worth Brown

### **Next Meeting**

January 21<sup>st</sup> 1:00PM Forest Service Conference Room 225 East Center Panguitch